


CITY COMMISSION POLICY

GRAND RAPIDS  MICHIGAN	NUMBER: 1000-22	HISTORY	
	DATE: June 5, 2001	FILE #	DATE
	FILE NUMBER: 68654	72752	07/27/04
	DEPARTMENT: ENGINEERING	76714	10/23/07

SUBJECT: BACKWATER VALVE/SUMP PUMP/FOOTING DRAIN PROGRAM

PURPOSE: To help reduce the likelihood of sewer backups in basements and to decrease the infiltration and inflow of rainfall runoff and groundwater into the Sanitary Sewer System

POLICY:

To offer financial assistance to property owners who are retail customers within the Grand Rapids Sanitary Sewer Service Area for the separation of footing drains and roof drains from sanitary sewer laterals, and the installation of backwater valves.

The City of Grand Rapids (City) shall provide financial assistance to eligible property owners under the provisions of the Backwater Valve/Sump Pump/Footing Drain Program as outlined below.

A. Eligible Work

1. Installation of backwater valves on sanitary sewer laterals in areas prone to hydraulic overloading.
2. Disconnection of footing and roof drains from sanitary sewer laterals.
3. Installation of a sump pump, discharge pipe and all appurtenances.

B. Program Area

The areas served by retail customers within the Grand Rapids Sanitary Sewer Service Area.

C. Property Eligibility

Properties will be eligible to participate in this program if, as determined by the Deputy City Manager or his/her designee, the following three (3) conditions are met:

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1. The applicant must be a User of the Sewer System within the City of Grand Rapids and Customer Communities as described in the Third Amendment to the Water and Sanitary Sewer Service Agreement with Customer Communities.
2. The installation(s) on the property meet all guidelines listed in Section D of this Policy.
3. The property has had one or more sewer backup(s) in the past ten (10) years due to overload of a sanitary sewer; or the property lies within an area that contributes to downstream backup problems, as determined by the Deputy City Manager or his/her designee.

D. Guidelines

1. The Deputy City Manager or his/her designee will determine which elements of program work are eligible for reimbursement.
2. All work is to conform to applicable City Code and Sewer System Rules and Regulations.
3. All property owners shall sign an agreement allowing for the requested work prior to the work being initiated.
4. Inspection(s) of the work will be conducted, as appropriate, and the normal permits and fees will apply.

E. City Payments

1. City payments under this program will be disbursed on a first come, first serve basis.
2. The City will pay up to 100% of the City contract price for work related to initial inspection of the private sanitary sewer system, backwater valve installation, disconnection of roof drains from the sanitary sewer lateral, sump pump installation, discharge piping from the sump pump to the lawn area or storm sewer, disconnection of footing drains from the sanitary sewer lateral, including materials and all appurtenant work.
3. Upon City notification of final inspection and approval of the work, payments to the contractor will be approved and made through the City Engineer's Office.
4. To be eligible to receive reimbursement under this program, the work must be performed by a contractor retained by the City.

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F. Maintenance and Release Agreement

As a condition for initiating the improvements and City payment, the property owner shall sign a maintenance and release agreement in which the property owner agrees to perform all required maintenance on the completed improvements according to manufacturer's recommendations. Also, the property owner agrees to hold the City of Grand Rapids, as well as Cascade Charter Township, Grand Rapids Charter Township, the City of Kentwood, Tallmadge Creek Township, the City of Walker, and/or Wright Township (as applicable), harmless from all defects and failures of the installed work. The agreement shall be approved by the City Attorney.